

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution
Proudly "Spotlights" our June 2012
Patriot of the Month



Charles Maxwell

Sponsored by:

Missouris Shoal Chapter
Lathrop, Missouri

Charles Maxwell was born on a farm east of Albany, Missouri, on February 1, 1927. He began high school in Albany; however, his family moved to a farm between Stanberry and King City in 1944. Because of an interest in agriculture, Charles attended and graduated from King City High School in 1945. He had received a deferment from military service so he could finish his high school education. Immediately after graduation, he joined the United States Army at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas on May 7, 1945.

Charles received his basic training in Instrument and Survey at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. After completing this training he entered Officer Candidate School and graduated as a Second Lieutenant on February 8, 1946. Shortly after graduation, he was transferred to Giessen, Germany and spent a year with the 68th Constabulary Squadron.

One of his jobs in the office was to deliver the payroll to a detachment in Southern Germany about three hundred miles from the Army Base at Giessen, Germany. Charles was chauffeured in a jeep which

did not have side curtains for protection. Traveling in the winter months was very cold with only a top on the jeep. Places in the roads and bridges had been bombed which caused many obstacles while traveling.

Charles told of living off base with three other officers in a rented house. They had a maid to wash their clothes and paid her a salary of two cigarettes a week, which she was happy to receive.

Charles received the Good Conduct Medal.

He was discharged from the service at Fort Sheridan, Illinois in February of 1947. After his discharge from active service, Charles spent twelve years in the Army Reserve and National Guard, obtaining the rank of 1st Lieutenant before his discharge in 1960.

In March 1947, Charles began working at Farmers State Bank and worked there for ten years. Wanting to be eligible for promotions, he decided to change locations and answered an invitation to another Farmers State Bank (no connection to the first location he worked). In August 1957 he started at the second location and retired from there in December 1992 after serving as President for many years. He retired from serving fifty years on the bank board in June 2011 after being in the banking business for sixty-four years.

Charles and Willa Breckenridge were married on May 28, 1950. They have four children, seven grandchildren and four great grandchildren. Charles is a member of the Masonic Lodge. He is a fifty year member of the Lions Club. He has been a Mayor and City Council Member. Charles is a life member of the American Legion, volunteers at the local VA Home, Ambassador at local Regional Medical Center, member of the Christian Church and assists with Sunday School and Church Services at a nursing home.

Willa is a charter and current member of the Missouri Shoal Chapter DAR.